Table 2. Description of All Participating Children.

Characteristic	Total N =2126	Smart Start N =711 (33%)	Non-Smart Start N =1415 (67%)
Sex			
Girls	977 (46%)	305 (43%)	672 (48%)
Boys	1010 (47.5%)	341 (48%)	669 (47%)
Missing	139 (6.5%)	65 (9%)	74 (5%)
Free/Reduced Price Lunch Status			
Yes	1331 (63%)	495 (70%)	836 (59%)
No	749 (35%)	206 (29%)	543 (38%)
Missing	46 (2%)	10 (1%)	36 (3%)
Race			
African American	798 (38%)*	284 (40%)*	514 (36%)
White	745 (35%)	196 (28%)	549 (39%)
Other	83 (4%)	21 (3%)	62 (4%)
Missing	500 (24%)	210 (30%)	290 (21%)
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	127 (6%)	40 (6%)	87 (6%)
Non-Hispanic	557 (26%)	199 (28%)	358 (25%)
Missing	1442 (68%)	472 (66%)	970 (69%)

may not add to 100% due to rounding.

There were also significantly more children eligible for FRPL in the Smart Start group (70%) than in the non-Smart Start group (59%) (p=.001) in the full data set. (Table 2) This is controlled for in the regressions. Similarly, there were significantly more white children in the non- Smart Start group (39%) compared to children in the Smart Start group (28%) (p=.001) in the full data set, and significantly more African American children in the Smart Start group (40%) than in the non-Smart Start group (33%) (p=.001) in the matched pairs. (Table 3) Separate analysis of African American children partially addresses this bias. Chi-square and t-tests run on demographic variables for the early vs. late county children revealed no significant differences between the groups. Demographic characteristics for the African American sample of children are presented in Table 4.